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the colonies receives the attention which it well deserves on the part of students of political science this work will render invaluable aid in the comparative study of governmental institutions.

CHARLES G. HAINES.

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KOESTER, FRANK. *The Price of Inefficiency*. Pp. xxiv, 439. Price, \$2. New York: Sturgis and Walton Company, 1913.

In this book the author treats a large number of subjects which range from the wastes of our political system, the waste of human life, the waste of monopoly, etc., which are properly included under the above title, to various topics which afford the opportunity of a discussion favorable to socialism, and finally to many matters treated for the most part by an unfavorable criticism of American affairs in general. American divorces, pancakes, and laws for the sterilization of certain criminals, illustrate the range of American institutions that are severely condemned.

The book contains many evidences of having been put together in haste, e.g. on p. 41, "It may best be indicated by a quotation for the author's work," on p. 173, "neither using the invention itself or allowing anyone else to do so," on p. 222, "neither by the politicians or capitalists," on p. 37, quoted matter, "The production for 1907 included 395,000,000 tons of bituminous and 85,000,000 tons of anthracite coal. . . . The available and easily accessible supplies of coal in the United States aggregate approximately 1,400,000,000 tons. At the present increasing rate of consumption, this supply will be so depleted as to approach exhaustion before the middle of the next century." It most certainly would in less than four years.

The unbounded praise of things German reminds one of the praise given them by Tacitus and is doubtless included for a like reason.

Those portions of the book which deal with specific wastes and in which an attempt is made to state their pecuniary measurement furnish a comprehensive survey of matters which are remediable. These are based on facts which all know, and in general are estimated on the opinions of those best qualified to make approximate estimates. These wastes are enormous and their extent is well stated by the author.

On the whole the book is at least a fair one and includes some good chapters. A more accurate title for it would be "A German American's Criticism of American Institutions" than its timely title of *The Price of Inefficiency*.

MAYNE S. HOWARD.

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LE BON, GUSTAVE. *The Psychology of Revolution*. Pp. 337. Price, \$2.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1913.

Since the author published his *Psychologie des foules* in 1895, there has been an ever increasing interest in the interpretation of crowd conduct. In the present volume the author attempts an interpretation of the general phenomenon of revolutions on a purely psychological basis. Both at the beginning and at the end of the volume general principles are discussed, but

the interpretation of the French revolution is the central theme. It is only by supplementing rational logic, which generally has been falsely regarded as voluntary and rational, with an appreciation of the rôle played by affective, collective and mystic logic that an explanation can be had of the force of "beliefs which no reason could justify." The events of the French revolution illustrate the effects of certain types of mind and of powerful leaders upon group conduct. Prejudice, fear, hate and timidity are most potent factors. Jacobin religion, the mystic mind and irrational beliefs, rather than economic and social forces, determined the trend of events and constituted the real basis of the reign of terror.

To those who have a profound regard for the process of social causation, this book will seem as one-sided in its interpretation as a thoroughgoing determinism does to the author. That he has rendered a valuable service in emphasizing the psychological element, none will deny; but he has given scant consideration to the social and economic causes underlying the production of the types of mind so powerful in shaping the events of the revolution. Considered as one aspect of interpretation without which no adequate explanation can be had, the book is extremely valuable. It will arrest attention, and provoke discussion. No student of the French revolution can afford to neglect it.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

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MOORE, BLAINE F. *The Supreme Court and Unconstitutional Legislation.* Pp. 158. Price, \$1. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1913.

It is the view of Dr. Moore that criticism of the courts has reached an acute stage. Through the power to declare laws unconstitutional they have negated reformatory measures of both legislative and executive branches of state and national governments. Men alive to the social and economic needs of the time therefore demand a limitation upon this assumed power. The author attempts a systematic study of just what the United States Supreme Court has accomplished by the exercise of judicial control, limiting himself, however, to court decisions as his source material.

The introductory chapter describes the various cases in state courts from the beginning of the revolution to the year 1803 which afforded precedents to the United States Supreme Court when in *Marbury vs. Madison* it definitely asserted and exercised the power to declare laws of Congress null and void. When the convention of 1787 finished its labors there had been but two cases in which state courts avowedly exercised this power in reference to their coördinate legislative bodies, but by the year 1803 the doctrine had been asserted more or less definitely in about fifteen cases in eight, possibly nine, of the original thirteen states. The judges were not so much influenced by actual decisions in other states as by the quickly formed consensus of opinion among them that judicial review was the inevitable consequence of the adoption of written constitutions. Yet there were eminent jurists among them who refused assent to the doctrine, and there was hot opposition outside the court room.